

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 CIEP-03 EB-11 AGR-20 AID-20 SR-02

ORM-03 DRC-01 /177 W

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R 251130Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0113

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3301

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MOPS PFOR CY TU

SUBJECT: FAMAGUSTA STATUS REPORT

1. EMBOFF VISITED FAMAGUSTA SEPT 23 ON CONSULAR BUSINESS. GOING TO FAMAGUSTA, FOLLOWED JEEP TRACT FROM NICOSIA TO HAMITKOY AND BACK TO MAIN FAMAGUSTA HIGHWAY (NEW ROAD). RETURNING, WENT VIA NEWLY CONSTRUCTED, AND LARGELY SURFACED, ROAD RUNNING THROUGH DHIKOMO.

2. GREEK VILLAGES BETWEEN NICOSIA AND FAMAGUSTA APPEARED TO BE TOTALLY ABANDONED, BUT ONLY MODERATELY DAMAGED. NO AGRICULTURAL WORK WAS OBSERVED, EVEN IN PURELY TURK CYPRIOT VILLAGES NORTH OF MAIN HIGHWAY. MILITARY ACTIVITY ALONG HIGHWAY WAS LIGHT WITH EXCEPTION ANGASTINA VILLAGE, WHICH APPEARS TO BE DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS. LARGE NUMBER TRUCKS, PARTICULARLY PETROL, WERE GOING FROM FAMAGUSTA PORT TO POINTS WEST.

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3. OUTSIDE ANGASTINA TURKISH MILITARY HAS ESTABLISHED AUTO

PAINT SHOP WHICH WAS BUSILY CONVERTING CIVILIAN CARS AND TRUCKS INTO MILITARY VEHICLES. TURKISH MOTOR POOL IN FAMAGUSTA TRULY INTERNATIONAL, WITH BRITISH AND GERMAN JEEP-LIKE VEHICLES CLEAR FAVORITES. CLOCK READINGS ON MOST VEHICLES LOW AND ALL APPEARED TO BE EQUIPPED WITH STEREOS. IN ADDITION, LARGE NUMBER AID DONATED CONSTRUCTION TRUCKS, COMPLETE WITH HAND-CLASP SYMBOL AND MAINLAND TURKISH PLATES, WERE WORKING ON MIA MILIA BY-PASS ROAD.

4. ACCORDING FAMAGUSTA DISTRICT OFFICER ISMET BESSIM, OVER FOUR THOUSAND TURK CYPRIOTS HAVE MIGRATED TO KARPASS SINCE END OF FIGHTING. HE LISTED CURRENT KARPASS POPULATION AT 10,000 GREEK AND 14,000 TURK CYPRIOTS. BESSIM SAID HIS RELATIONS WITH LOCAL MILITARY COMMANDERS ARE EXCELLENT AND CLAIMED TO HAVE NO PROBLEMS OTHER THAN OVERWORK. BESSIM, AND OTHER TURK CYPRIOT OFFICIALS, ARE DRIVING AROUND TOWN IN NEW CARS OBVIOUSLY LIBERATED FROM FAMAGUSTA CUSTOMS AREA.

5. OLD CITY IN UNDER CONTROL T. M. T. (TURK CYPRIOT FIGHTERS); NEW CITY UNDER FIRM MAINLAND COMMAND. TURK CYPRIOT CONTACT COMPLAINED MILITARY HAS ORDERS TO SHOOT-ON-SIGHT ANY CIVILIANS VENTURING INTO NEW CITY. BECAUSE OF THIS, THERE VIRTUALLY NO APPARENT LOOTING IN FORMER GREEK AREA. EMBOFF ENTERED APPROXIMATELY 10 RESIDENCES, IN COMPANY MAINLAND TURK OFFICER, AND FOUND CONTENTS INTACT. HOMES HAD BEEN SEARCHED BUT, IN CONTRAST TO KYRENIA, WERE NOT IN DISARRAY. RADIOS, CAMERAS, TAPE RECORDERS, ETC. WERE IN PLACE. FOREIGN NATIONAL WHO ACCOMPANIED PARTY FOUND CY 300 IN UNLOCKED DESK DRAWER IN HIS OFFICE.

6. ASIDE FROM BOMBING DURING FIRST TURKISH ASSAULT, AND FIRE DAMAGE AROUND OUTSKIRTS WALLED CITY, FAMAGUSTA REMAINS LARGELY UNTOUCHED. ELECTRICITY AND WATER OPERATIVE. IF TURKS WOULD AGREE, FORMER INHABITANTS COULD MOVE BACK IMMEDIATELY TO A FUNCTIONING CITY. AT PRESENT, CITY IS TOTALLY ABANDONED WITH EXCEPTION PERIODIC MILITARY PATROLS. MILITARY HEADQUARTERS LOCATED IN BUILDING OPPOSITE FAMAGUSTA CATHEDRAL, GROUNDS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO MOTOR POOL.
CRAWFORD

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